

HISTORY OF FORENSIC MEDICINE & TOXICOLOGY

HARRISON and GILROY Test ; HARRISON and GILROY introduce a qualitative colorimetric chemical test to detect the presence of barium, antimony and lead on the hands of individuals who fired firearms.

Maurice MÜLLER, a Swiss scientist, adapts the antibody-antigen diffusion test for precipiten testing to determine species. - 1960s

MARSHALL and co-workers published a series of papers on determination of time since death from postmortem cooling or algor mortis.

LUCAS, in Canada, describes the application of gas chromatography (GC) to the identification of petroleum products in the forensic laboratory. - 1960

Hungary becomes the first country in Europe to carry out research in the subject of lip prints.-1961

D.A. HOPKINSON and colleagues first identify the polymorphic nature of erythrocyte acid phosphatase (EAP).-1963

N. SPENCER and colleagues first identify the polymorphic nature of red cell phosphoglucosmutase (PGM).-1964

R. A. FILDES and H. HARRIS first identify the polymorphic nature of red cell adenylate cyclase (AK).-1966

The International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) is formed.

CULLIFORD, of the British Metropolitan Police Laboratory, initiates the development of gel-based methods to test for isoenzymes in dried bloodstains and also methods for testing proteins and isoenzymes in both blood , body fluids and secretions.- 1967

SPENCER and colleagues first identify the polymorphic nature of red cell adenosine deaminase (ADA).- 1968

Y. TSUCHIHASHI and T. SUZUKI start a three year study, examining the lip prints of 1364 persons at the Department of Forensic Odontology at

Tokyo University. They will conclude that lip prints are unique to each individual. The science of Cheiloscopy gets an unprecedented boost.

CULLIFORD publishes The Examination and Typing of Bloodstains in the Crime Laboratory – 1971

HOPKINSON and colleagues first identify the polymorphic nature of esterase D (ESD)-1973

The detection of gunshot residue (GSR) using scanning electron microscopy with electron dispersive X-rays (SEMEDX) technology is developed by J. E. WESSEL, P. F. JONES, Q. Y. KWAN, R. S. NESBITT and E. J. RATTIN at Aerospace Corporation.-1974

ZORO and HADLEY in the United Kingdom first evaluate GC-MS for forensic purposes.-1976

MATSUMUR, a trace evidence examiner of the National Police Agency of Japan, notices his own fingerprints developing on microscope slides . He relates the information to co-worker Masato SOBA, a latent print examiner. SOBA that year be the first to develop latent prints intentionally by “Superglue®” fuming.-1977

The FBI introduces the beginnings of its Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) with the first computerized scans of fingerprints.

American geneticists discover a region of DNA that does not hold any genetic information and which is extremely variable between individuals.- 1980

The Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is first conceived by Kerry MULLIS- 1983

Sir Alec JEFFREYS a research fellow at the Lister Institute, Leicester University, discovers a method of identifying individuals from DNA - Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP). He dubs it 'DNA Fingerprinting' - a revolutionary new technique in Forensic Science, which is perhaps the greatest single Forensic Discovery of the 20th Century.